

Application No. Applicant(s) 10/718,614 GLASER, STEPHEN R. Notice of Allowability Examiner Art Unit George Manuel -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308. 1. This communication is responsive to the amendment, filed 6/14/07. 2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 21-34 and 36-39. 3. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f). a) \square All b) Some* c) None of the: 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received. 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____. 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)). * Certified copies not received: __ Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE. 4. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient. 5. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted. (a) I including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date __ (b) I including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d). 6. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL. Attachment(s) 1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 5. Notice of Informal Patent Application 2. Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 6. M Interview Summary (PTO-413). Paper No./Mail Date 3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), 7. X Examiner's Amendment/Comment Paper No./Mail Date 4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit 8. X Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance of Biological Material 9. Other ____.

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DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Michael A. Oblon on 6/18/07.

The application has been amended as follows:

In claim 21, line 17, after "level" insert –and determining whether amblyopia is present based on whether a correct response is achieved for the successive levels--.

In claim 25, line 16, replace "a particular vision disorder" with -amblyopia--.

In claim 29, line 9, after "reference" insert -display--.

In claim 29, line 15, after "reference" insert -display--.

In claim 29, line 16, after "reference" insert –display--.

In claim 29, line 18, after "medium" insert –and determines whether amblyopia is present based on whether a correct response is achieved for the successive levels--.

In claim 33, line 11, after "reference" insert -display--.

In claim 33, line 12, after "eye" insert –and based on a correct matching determine whether amblyopia is present--.

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Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 21-34 and 36-39 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

A method and apparatus for screening patients for amblyopia comprising two displays and using successive levels of optotypes as claimed are not taught nor suggested by the prior art of record. Amblyopia being a visual impairment exhibiting a dimness of sight especially in one eye without apparent change in the eye structures and without apparent organic pathology indicates subjective patient testing and the claimed method and apparatus provide a unique reference display that allows the patient to select an optotype that corresponds to an optotype from another display medium separated from the patient.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to George Manuel whose telephone number is (571) 272-4952.

/George Manuel / George Manuel Primary Examiner Art Unit: 3762